

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT WHIRINAKI WHARE TAONGA

TERM 1 2025

Whirinaki Whare Taonga is Upper Hutt's own art and culture hub. We are committed to offering FREE engaging and accessible visual and performing art experiences for local students and have a range of exciting world class programmes.



Message from the Learning Programmes Specialist, Charlotte Smith.

Kia ora tatou

The final term of 2024 has seen tamariki try their hand as art critics when they visited '21

Artists', and learn about ways to express their connection to their land through the incredible artworks of Shane Cotton and Michael Tuffery. Beautiful prints were created in the practical part of the visits. Here, I am sharing some artworks where tamariki are showing their connection to Te Awa Kairangi using a relief printmaking technique, similar to that used by Michael Tuffery in his woodcuts.

It was wonderful to hear the stories and memories the children have of their local awa. Their creative abilities to make this come to life in their art was inspiring. I really enjoyed seeing their faces in the final stage of the printmaking process when they pulled back the card to reveal their amazing work, exceeding their own expectations of themselves.

In '21 Artists' everyone quickly decided on their favourite artworks and some started counting their pocket money in their heads, contemplating whether they could afford their most-loved piece! Following this, there was a feeling of awe as we viewed Shane Cotton's huge, stunning paintings.

In the last few of weeks of term, visitors saw 'Yakishime: Earth Metamorphosis' alongside the Shane Cotton exhibition. These incredible Japanese ceramics follow a technique that is over 800 years old. They are formed from clay found only in the area of their origin, then fired in the kiln at over 1000 degrees. The result is intriguing ceramics used in traditional Japanese life and tea ceremony, and in more recent times as artworks. The experience was another fantastic way of observing how artists show their connection to their land through their works.

What to Expect in Term 1:

In Term 1 we can help you make strong links to the important learnings in the current Aotearoa Histories Curriculum as well as Waitangi Day as we visit 'Kupe Sites: Ngā tapuwae o Kupe | Landmarks of the great voyager'.

Alternatively, have your class learn about more recent social history as they experience 'Bodgies and Bogans'. Through witnessing the voice of New Zealand's youth in the 1940s through to the 1980s, ākongā will learn that they too have a voice as the current youth of New Zealand. No doubt there will be some opportunities for you to get to know their family life better as they share which aspects of the exhibition they see in their grandparents and parents! Great for term 1.

Below you will see the big questions we will focus on for these education visits. The questions can be adapted and changed to suit the needs of your class, just let me know.

If you would like to talk through a specific focus for me to cater for during your visit, I am always very happy to meet with you in person. We are always here to supplement your in-class mahi. You will also receive an education resource to accompany your gallery experience, full of activities, texts and curriculum links to help you teach in meaningful ways before and after your visit.



KUPE SITES

NGĀ TAPUWAE O KUPE LANDMARKS OF THE GREAT VOYAGER

**All of Term 1: 3 Feb to 9 April
(Mon-Wed)**

Suitable for Year 1 upwards · FREE

A thousand years ago, the great voyager Kupe made an epic journey from the eastern Pacific across the ocean to a new land. Within this exhibition, tamariki will view 36 stunning black and white photographs of important Kupe sites.

Students will be engaged with the photographs in fun ways through the stories of Kupe's journey which are linked to the formations and naming of the land. For example, many iwi tell the story of how Kupe pursued Te Wheke-a-Muturangi (giant octopus) across the rocky coastline of Wairarapa.

Many traces remain of Kupe's encounter with our land, which would much later be called New Zealand. They can be found in the names of landmarks in various parts of the country, and even in one of its names – Aotearoa. Kupe and his stories are of immense importance to



the many iwi who trace their whakapapa back through him.

The stories of his arrival in Aotearoa vary, but they all celebrate a remarkable voyager who settled a new land and charted a route across the Pacific for later navigators to follow.

Tamariki will be fascinated to learn that the names of landmarks in and around Te Whanganui-a-Tara and on Wellington's west coast tell the stories of Kupe's journey around there. Te Whanganui-a-Tara provided shelter, food, and a place to repair waka damaged by pursuing and battling with the wheke.

Our Big Questions

- Why did Kupe voyage from Hawaiki to Aotearoa?
- What were the reasons for Kupe to name

places as he journeyed around Aotearoa? (Tangata Whenua are deeply connected to the local area. Naming places was key to establishing and maintaining mana and tūrangawaewae).

- What are the stories behind the names Kupe chose to name places around Aotearoa?
- How was Māori voyaging through the Pacific deliberate and skilful? How did it bring with it Pacific whakapapa and cultural identities?

In our creative workshop we will:

- Learn about Kupe, his voyage and the naming of places around Aotearoa
- Learn about Māori navigation techniques.
- Complete a practical visual art activity related to the exhibition



BODGIES TO BOGANS

From Week 6 until end of term · Mon 10 March to Wed 9th April (Mon-Wed)

This exhibition is curated by Whirinaki Whare Taonga and runs all year, so we can discuss booking a visit to this for a later term where desired.

Suitable for Year 5 upwards · FREE

Bodgies to Bogans tells the story of the juvenile delinquencies and teenager rebellion of the 1950s to the Bogans of the 1980s. From listening to rock and roll, riding motorcycles and drinking milk shakes at milk bars in the 50s to growing a mullet and thrashing out the leathers to heavy metal in the 80s, this exhibition documents the history of youth culture in Upper Hutt, and New Zealand.

Tamariki will also be able to see parts of a Holden V8 and hang out in a 1950s milk bar.

Our Big Questions

- What is a bodgie? What is a bogan?
- How can we place bodgies and bogans on a timeline to help us understand the world they lived in when compared to ours today?
- What beliefs, perspectives and values did young people of the bodgies and bogans era hold which made them act in specific ways?
- What opinions do we have about the bodgies and bogans' way of life and the things they enjoyed? Can we express them in a way which shows kindness and understanding?
- When we compare youth culture today with

back then, which similarities and differences are there?

In our creative workshop we will:

- Orientate ourselves on a timeline to understand when Bodgies and Bogans culture existed.

- Share our findings from the exhibition where we will have completed a scavenger hunt, comparing youth culture of the time with that of 2025.
- Complete a retro art activity, applied to the context of a pop culture interest we as young people have in 2025.



HEADS UP FOR TERMS 2 & 3

We are offering wonderful opportunities to delve into science learning in the coming terms. More information including the practical aspects of the creative workshops are to follow in our Term 2 and 3 Educational Opportunities fliers.

Term 2 **DINOSAURS: SURVIVING EXTINCTION**

All term · 28 Apr to 25 Jun (Mon-Wed) · FREE

Step into a world where ancient giants roamed and uncover how some dinosaurs, survived extinction, and became the birds we see today. Through captivating displays, artworks, and interactive exhibits, this exhibition reveals the fascinating connection between dinosaurs and their avian descendants. With something for all ages, this exhibition brings these revelations to life, offering a glimpse into the journey from dinosaurs to modern birds.

Explore three distinct groups of dinosaurs, including life-sized fossil displays of a 9-metre Tarbosaurus, Utahraptor, and more. Interactive exhibits like dig pits and touch fossils invite visitors to make their own discoveries about the deep connections between dinosaurs and today's birds.

Term 3 **MICROSCULPTURE: The Insect Photography of Levon Biss**

All term (excluding week 10) · 14 Jul to 10 Sep (Mon-Wed) · FREE

A ground-breaking photographic exhibition of science and art, Microsculpture presents insect specimens from the collections of the Oxford University Museum of Natural History like never before. The breath-taking, high magnification portraiture of photographer Levon Biss captures the microscopic form of these insects in striking high-resolution detail. This exhibition, has been shown in venues around the world and comes to Upper Hutt.

PLANNING A VISIT

Getting here

Public Transport: with buses and trains stopping at Upper Hutt Station, Whirinaki Whare Taonga is just a five minute walk down the road.

Bringing your own bus or cars: car parking and bus drop off points are right behind Expressions in the carpark near H2O Xtream swimming pool.



★: Education entrance

During Your Visit

Lunch & morning tea: we have an indoor space to enjoy morning and afternoon tea should the weather require (subject to availability)

School bags & jackets: yes you can bring your school bags and jackets as we have a space for them while you visit.

For further information or to book a visit please contact

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Charlotte is also available throughout the year to visit your school and discuss the exhibition programme and the opportunities for your students. Please contact her to make a time to visit you.